



Angélica Infante-Green
Commissioner

State of Rhode Island
DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
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January 11, 2022

TO: Members of the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

FROM: Angélica Infante-Green, Commissioner

SUBJECT: Approval of Facility Equity Initiative Projects

The Fiscal Year 2022 State Budget allocated \$80M for School Construction Aid, which includes \$0.6M to the SBA Capital Fund and \$79.4M for Housing Aid commitments. Due to COVID-19's significant impact on planning and construction, only \$71M of Housing Aid was distributed in FY 2022. Pursuant to RIGL 45-38.2-2, Housing Aid savings are allocated toward the SBA Capital Fund. By partnering with the Office of Energy Resources (OER) and the Office of Opportunity, Equity and Diversity (ODEO), we are able to award **\$13,392,362 in FY 2022 SBA Capital Fund to fund the Facility Equity Initiative pilot program.**

The SBA Capital Fund may be used to repair public school facilities and is distributed on a priority basis to ensure that funding has the greatest impact on facility gaps in the State's priority areas, including creating facility equity between districts. The SBA at the RI Department of Education received 53 applications from 5 LEAs totaling \$68,697,659. Applications were reviewed based on a prioritization rubric developed by the SBA and by a scoring committee comprised of members from RIDE, OER, and ODEO. On November 30, 2021, the Scoring Committee recommended funding for 26 projects totaling \$13.4M.

RECOMMENDATION: THAT, the Council approves allocation of \$13,392,362 of the FY22 SBA Capital Fund as follows:

a. Providence	\$ 4,453,002
b. Pawtucket	\$ 4,355,836
c. Central Falls	\$ 3,590,870
d. Woonsocket	\$ 500,000
e. West Warwick	\$ 492,654